

In the claims

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:
entering via an electronic prescription creation device a prescription for a drug;
viewing a drug use evaluation alert on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device;
viewing on the graphical user interface a query of whether a user desires to override the drug use evaluation alert;
entering via the electronic prescription creation device an override of the drug use evaluation alert;
transmitting the prescription and override over a network directly to a prescription processor;
wherein the prescription processor, upon receipt of the prescription, attempts to process the prescription and actuates a second drug use evaluation, and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, the prescription processor processes the prescription.
2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
viewing on the graphical user interface a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.
3. (original) The method of claim 2, the plurality of representations including a representation that a patient is no longer taking a conflicting drug.
4. (original) The method of claim 2, the plurality of representations including a representation that a patient is stabilized on the drug for the prescription.
5. (original) The method of claim 2, the plurality of representations including a representation that a patient is not allergic to the drug for the prescription.
6. (original) The method of claim 2, the plurality of representations including a representation that a dosage of the drug is appropriate for a patient's weight.
7. (original) The method of claim 2, the plurality of representations including a representation that a dosage of the drug is appropriate for a patient's condition.
8. (original) The method of claim 2, the plurality of representations including a representation that a patient is not pregnant.

9. (original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
selecting via the electronic prescription creation device at least one of the plurality of representations.
10. (canceled) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
completing the prescription with the electronic prescription creation device.
11. (canceled) The method of claim 10, the prescription being a paper prescription printed with a printer in communication with the electronic prescription creation device.
12. (previously presented) The method of claim 89, the paper prescription including indicia thereon communicating that the user has overridden the drug use evaluation alert.
13. (original) The method of claim 12, the indicia including the drug use evaluation alert.
14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, the prescription being an electronic prescription.
15. (original) The method of claim 14, the electronic prescription including information communicating that the user has overridden the drug use evaluation alert.
16. (original) The method of claim 15, the information including the drug use evaluation alert.
17. (original) The method of claim 1, the drug use evaluation alert being at least one of:
- a drug-allergy alert;
 - a drug-disease alert;
 - a drug-drug interaction alert;
 - a drug-food interaction alert;
 - an overuse alert;
 - a drug-lab conflict alert;
 - a high dose alert;
 - a tobacco use alert;
 - an ingredient duplication alert;
 - an excessive drug quantity alert;
 - an under-use alert;
 - an iatrogenic condition alert;

an excessive duration alert;
a low dose alert;
a lactation/nursing interaction alert;
an alcohol conflict alert;
an insufficient quantity alert;
a sub-optimal regimen alert;
a drug-age alert;
a drug-pregnancy alert;
a sub-optimal drug/indication alert;
a sub-optimal dosage form alert; and
a drug-gender alert.

18. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
entering via the electronic prescription creation device a reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.
19. (original) The method of claim 1, the electronic prescription creation device being a personal digital assistant.
20. (currently amended) A method comprising:
entering via an electronic prescription creation device ~~configured to create prescriptions~~ a prescription for a drug;
viewing a drug use evaluation alert on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device;
entering via the electronic prescription creation device a reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert; and
transmitting the prescription and a reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert over a network directly to a prescription processor;
wherein the prescription processor, upon receipt of the prescription, attempts to process the prescription and actuates a second drug use evaluation, and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, the prescription processor processes the prescription.
21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising:

viewing on the graphical user interface a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for overriding the drug use evaluation alert, entering via the electronic prescription creation device the reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert including selecting via the electronic prescription creation device at least one of the plurality of representations.

22. (original) The method of claim 21, the plurality of representations including at least one of the following:

- a representation that the patient is no longer taking a conflicting drug;
- a representation that the patient is stabilized on the drug for the prescription;
- a representation that the patient is not allergic to the drug for the prescription;
- a representation that a dosage of the drug is appropriate for the patient's weight;
- a representation that the dosage of the drug is appropriate for the patient's condition;
- a representation that the patient is not pregnant;
- a representation of a narrow therapeutic drug index;
- a representation that a concurrent diagnosis prohibits another selection;
- a representation of a failed therapy; and
- a representation that the patient is unable to take another selection.

23. (canceled) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
completing the prescription with the electronic prescription creation device, the prescription being at least one of a paper prescription and an electronic prescription, the prescription including information communicating the drug use evaluation alert.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, the prescription including an indication that a user has overridden the drug use evaluation alert.

25. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed by an electronic prescription creation device cause the electronic prescription creation device to:

- create a prescription for a patient;
- present on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device a drug use evaluation alert;

present on a graphical user interface a representation that queries whether a user desires to override the drug use evaluation alert;

receive from the user an override of the drug use evaluation alert; and

transmit the prescription and override over a network directly to a prescription processor;

wherein the prescription processor, upon receipt of the prescription, attempts to process the prescription and actuates a second drug use evaluation, and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, the prescription processor processes the prescription.

26. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

present on the graphical user interface a plurality of motives for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.

27. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

receive from the user a reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert, the reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert being at least one of the plurality of motives presented on the graphical user interface.

28. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 26, the reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert being at least one of:

an indication that the patient is no longer taking a conflicting drug;

an indication that the patient is stabilized on the drug for the prescription;

an indication that the patient is not allergic to the drug for the prescription;

an indication that a dosage of the drug is appropriate for the patient's weight;

an indication that the dosage of the drug is appropriate for the patient's condition;

and

an indication that the patient is not pregnant;

an indication of a narrow therapeutic drug index;

an indication that a concurrent diagnosis prohibits another selection;

an indication of a failed therapy; and

an indication that the patient is unable to take another selection.

29. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

include with the prescription an indication that the user has overridden the drug use evaluation alert.

30. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 29, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

include with the prescription the drug use evaluation alert.

31. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, the prescription being an electronic prescription.

32. (canceled) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, the prescription being a paper prescription.

33. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 25, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

receive from the user a reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.

34. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

communicate to a workstation via a network the reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.

35. (canceled) The computer-readable medium of claim 33, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

communicate to a workstation via a network an indication that the user has overridden the drug use evaluation alert.

36. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed by an electronic prescription creation device cause the electronic prescription creation device to:

create a prescription for a patient;

present on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for overriding a drug use evaluation alert; and

receive from a user a selection of one of the plurality of representations; and

transmit the prescription and motive for overriding a drug use evaluation alert over a network directly to a prescription processor;

wherein the prescription processor, upon receipt of the prescription, attempts to process the prescription and actuates a second drug use evaluation, and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, the prescription processor processes the prescription.

37. (canceled) A computer-readable medium of claim 36, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

communicate to a workstation via a network the selection of one of the plurality of representations.

38. (currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving from an electronic device configured to create prescriptions for patients a prescription and an indication that a user of the electronic device has overridden a drug use evaluation alert;

attempting to process the prescription by actuating a second drug use evaluation; and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, processing the prescription;

wherein the user entered a prescription via an electronic prescription creation device; viewed a drug use evaluation alert on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device; viewed on the graphical user interface a query of whether the user desired to override the drug use evaluation alert; entered an override of the drug use evaluation

alert via the electronic prescription creation device; and transmitted the prescription and override over a network directly to a prescription processor.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
receiving from the electronic device a reason why the user of the electronic device has overridden a drug use evaluation alert.

40. (original) The method of claim 39, the reason being received by a service provider of software for the electronic device.

41. (canceled) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
receiving a prescription created with the electronic device;
conducting a drug use evaluation for the received prescription to obtain another drug use evaluation alert;
determining whether the user has overridden the another drug use evaluation alert based on the received indication.

42. (original) The method of claim 38, the indication being received by a pharmacy.

43. (original) The method of claim 42, further comprising forwarding the indication to at least one of a pharmacy benefit management company and a claims processor.

44. (original) The method of claim 38, the indication being received by a service provider of software for the electronic device.

45. (currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in a transmission medium comprising:

computer-readable program code causing an electronic prescription creation device to create an electronic prescription;

computer-readable program code causing an electronic prescription creation device to present a user of the electronic prescription creation device a drug use evaluation alert;

computer-readable program code for causing an electronic prescription creation device to query whether the user desires to override the drug use evaluation alert;

computer-readable program code for causing an electronic prescription creation device to receive an override of the drug use evaluation alert; and

computer-readable program code for transmitting the override over a network directly to a prescription processor;

wherein the prescription processor, upon receipt of the prescription, attempts to process the prescription and actuates a second drug use evaluation; and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, the prescription processor processes the prescription.

46. (original) The computer data signal embodied in the transmission medium of claim 45, further comprising:

computer-readable program code for causing the electronic prescription creation device to present a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.

47. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

an electronic device configured to create prescriptions, the electronic device including means for querying whether the user desires to override the drug use evaluation alert, the electronic device including means for receiving an override for the drug use evaluation, the electronic device including means for transmitting the override for the drug use evaluation over a network directly to a prescription processor;

wherein the prescription processor, upon receipt of the prescription, attempts to process the prescription and actuates a second drug use evaluation, and if a resultant drug use evaluation alert is correspondent to said override of the user, the prescription processor processes the prescription.

48. (original) The apparatus of claim 47, the electronic device further comprising means for receiving a reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.

49. (currently amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium of an electronic prescription creation device comprising the code for generating a graphical user interface, wherein the graphical user interface comprises:

at least one representation querying whether a user desires to override a drug use evaluation alert; and

at least one representation allowing the user to transmit the override over a network directly to a prescription processor.

50. (original) The computer executable software code stored on the computer readable medium of the electronic prescription device of claim 49, the graphical user interface further comprising:

at least one representation corresponding to a motive for overriding the drug use evaluation alert.

51. (previously presented) A method comprising:
entering via a an electronic prescription creation device a prescription for a drug to prescribe to a patient;
viewing on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device a query of whether the drug is to be dispensed as written instead of a substitutable generic drug;
entering via the electronic prescription creation device an indication that the drug is to be dispensed as written;
entering via the electronic prescription creation device a reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

52. (original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:
viewing on the graphical user interface a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for dispensing the drug as written.

53. (previously presented) The method of claim 52, the entering via the electronic prescription creation device the reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written including selecting one of the plurality of representations.

54. (original) The method of claim 52, the plurality of representations including at least one NCPDP dispense as written code.

55. (original) The method of claim 52, the plurality of representations including a representation that the drug is medically necessary.

56. (original) The method of claim 52, the plurality of representations including a representation that a patient requests the drug.

57. (original) The method of claim 51, the entering via the electronic prescription creation device an indication representing that the that the drug is to be dispensed as written including selecting an icon on the graphical user interface.

58. (original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:
completing the prescription with the electronic prescription creation device.

59. (original) The method of claim 58, the prescription being a paper prescription printed with a printer in communication with the electronic prescription creation device.

60. (original) The method of claim 59, the paper prescription including indicia thereon communicating the reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

61. (original) The method of claim 60, the indicia including a NCPDP dispense as written code.

62. (original) The method of claim 58, the prescription being an electronic prescription.

63. (original) The method of claim 62, the electronic prescription including information communicating the reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

64. (original) The method of claim 63, the information further communication a NCPDP dispense as written code.

65. (previously presented) A method comprising:
entering via a an electronic prescription creation device a prescription for a drug to prescribe to a patient;
viewing on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for dispensing the drug as written;
entering via the electronic prescription creation device a reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

66. (original) The method of claim 65, the entering via the electronic prescription device a reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written including selecting at least one of the plurality of representations.

67. (previously presented) The method of claim 65 wherein the plurality of representations comprises:

a representation that the drug is medically necessary; and
a representation that the patient requested the drug.

68. (original) The method of claim 65, further comprising:
completing the prescription with the electronic prescription creation device, the prescription being at least one of a paper prescription and an electronic prescription and including information communicating the reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

69. (original) The method of claim 68, the information including at least one NCPDP dispense as written code.

70. (previously presented) The method of claim 67, wherein the plurality of representations further comprise NCPDP dispense as written codes.

71. (original) A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed by an electronic device cause the electronic device to:

create a prescription for a drug; and

receive from a user of the electronic device a reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

72. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 71, the instructions when executed by the electronic device further causing the electronic device to:

present on a graphical user interface of the electronic device a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for dispensing the drug as written.

73. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 72, the reason for overriding the drug use evaluation alert being at least one of the plurality of representations presented on the graphical user interface.

74. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 72, the plurality of representations including at least one of:

a representation that the drug is medically necessary; and

a representation that the patient requested the drug.

75. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 71, the instructions when executed by the electronic device further causing the electronic device to:

include with the prescription the reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

76. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 75, the prescription being an electronic prescription.

77. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 75, the prescription being a paper prescription.

78. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 72, the instructions when executed by the electronic prescription creation device further causing the electronic prescription creation device to:

communicate to a workstation via a network the reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

79. (previously presented) A method comprising:

entering via an electronic device configured to create prescriptions a reason why a prescription of a drug created by the electronic device is to be dispensed as written.

80. (original) The method of claim 79, the reason being received by a service provider of software for the electronic device.

81. (original) The method of claim 79, the reason being received by a pharmacy.

82. (original) The method of claim 81, further comprising forwarding the reason to at least one of a claims processor and a pharmacy benefit management company.

83. (original) The method of claim 79, further comprising receiving the prescription.

84. (original) A computer data signal embodied in a transmission medium comprising:

computer-readable program code for causing the electronic prescription creation device to query whether the user desires to dispense a drug as written; and

computer-readable program code for causing the electronic prescription creation device to receive a reason why the drug is to be dispensed as written.

85. (original) The computer data signal embodied in the transmission medium of claim 84, further comprising:

computer-readable program code for causing the electronic prescription creation device to present a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for dispensing the drug as written.

86. (original) An apparatus comprising:

an electronic device configured to create prescriptions, the electronic device including means for receiving a reason why a user of the electronic device requests that a drug for a prescription is to be dispensed as written.

87. (original) The apparatus of claim 86, the electronic device further comprising means for including the reason with a prescription created with the electronic device.

88. (previously presented) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium of an electronic device configured to create prescriptions comprising the code for generating a graphical user interface wherein the graphical user interface comprises:

a plurality of representations each corresponding to a motive for dispensing a drug as written, each of the representations being selectable by a user of the electronic device.

89. (previously presented) A method comprising:

entering via an electronic prescription creation device a prescription for a drug;
viewing a drug use evaluation alert on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device;

viewing on the graphical user interface a query of whether a user desires to override the drug use evaluation alert;

entering via the electronic prescription creation device an override of the drug use evaluation alert;

creating a paper prescription printed with a printer in communication with the electronic prescription creation device containing the override.

90. (previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the prescription includes information communicating the drug use evaluation alert.

91. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, the instructions when executed by an electronic prescription creation device cause the electronic prescription creation device to:

create a prescription for a patient;

present on a graphical user interface of the electronic prescription creation device a drug use evaluation alert;

present on a graphical user interface a representation that queries whether a user desires to override the drug use evaluation alert;

receive from the user an override of the drug use evaluation alert; and

create a paper prescription printed with a printer in communication with the electronic prescription creation device containing the override.